

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Hirano et al.

Application No: 10/784,986

Filing Date: February 25, 2004

For: Novel Lysine Decarboxylase Gene
and Method for Producing L-Lysine

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: [to be assigned]

Attorney Ref. No.: US-109

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to taking up this new patent application for action on the merits, please
amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claim 9 as follows: